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June 2 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Plans)  
Deputy Director (Intelligence)  
Deputy Director (Support)  
Special Assistant to the Director  
for Planning and Coordination  
Senior Representatives  
Chiefs of Missions and Stations



SUBJECT: Wartime Mission of CIA

1. The National Security Council has assigned to the Central Intelligence Agency the responsibility for the development of covert assets for unconventional warfare, including wherever practicable provision of a base upon which the military may expand in time of war. The Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Director of Central Intelligence have agreed that, in time of war or in areas where U.S. Forces are actively engaged, the Central Intelligence Agency elements within the theater will come under the control of the Theater Commander. The Senior Central Intelligence Agency officer within the Theater will become a member of the staff of the Theater Commander. Support of such Central Intelligence Agency field elements will be provided from this Headquarters in a like manner to that support furnished by the military services to their respective components.

2. I have on several occasions assured the military authorities that the Central Intelligence Agency would endeavor to accomplish its wartime role in support of the military. It is self-evident that preparations for the assumption of the wartime role must be made in time of peace. Plans of the Central Intelligence Agency must be in conformity with those of the military. Those capabilities and intentions of the Central Intelligence Agency which are for the support of the military must periodically be presented to the military authorities in order that adequate planning may be accomplished.

3. It is imperative that this Agency continually exert sufficient effort to prepare for the accomplishment of its wartime mission.

4. Addressees are hereby directed to take the action necessary to enable this Agency to be prepared to assume its wartime role as well as to carry on its responsibilities during cold war. In the event that a specific conflict should arise wherein progress and preparation for the wartime role of the Agency is clearly incompatible with the progress during cold war, it should be brought to my attention. The Deputy Directors will report by 30 June 1955, and thereafter on a semi-annual

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basis, action taken and progress made including any funds and personnel in excess of current ceilings that may be required toward the accomplishment of any portion of this mission.

5. I have designated the Special Assistant for Planning and Coordination to review the reports submitted on 30 June and to advise what further action he believes necessary with regard to planning for wartime.

/s/

ALLEN W. DULLES  
Director

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